

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

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THE OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Judge Jenny Barron Principal Hadassah Speaker



Judge Jennie Loitman Barron, the only woman full-time judge in Massachusetts, will be the principal speaker at the annual Hadassah Donor Dinner, to be held at the Chateau Laurier on Tuesday, February 12th, at 7.00 p.m.

Judge Barron has spent an active life in civic, charitable and Zionist work, and she has travelled extensively in the United States to lecture on juvenile delinquency, women's rights and labor legislation. She is the only woman delegate from her state in the American Jewish Conference.

A beautiful musical program is being included in the arrangements. Mrs. Henry Loeb, who possesses one of the superb voices in Ontario, will render several vocal solos.

Mr. Eugene Kash, the distinguished Concert Master of the Ottawa Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, who recently returned from important musical work in London, England, will bring the famed music of his violin to the gathering.

Mrs. Morris Goldberg is the Convener of the Dinner, and Mrs. B. M. Alexandor, president of the Ottawa Hadassah Council, will be the chairman of the evening.

From the reports of chapter presidents rendered at the January meeting of the Council it is clearly indicated that the attendance at the Donor Dinner this year will break all preceding records.

Rabbi Leaving Ottawa

The Vaad Ha'ir has accepted the resignation of Rabbi Oscar Z. Fasman at his request, in order to enable him to become the Executive Vice-President of the Hebrew Theological College in Chicago. The Rabbi will assume his new duties next May 1st, although his family will remain in the city for several weeks longer to celebrate the Bar-Mitzvah of his oldest son the week-end of May 17-19.

In tendering his resignation the Rabbi spoke of the gratification he found in serving Ottawa Jewry during the last six critical years, because the men and women have always co-operated to make his work pleasant and to build the Ottawa Jewish Community into an outstanding example of the positive Jewish spirit. His sole reason for leaving, he explained was the fact that in his new position he would have even greater opportunities to serve Israel. The motion to accept the resignation was then carried with an expression of deep regret.

DO YOU KNOW THAT—

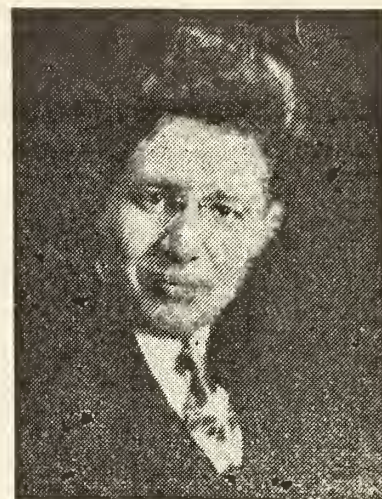
Max Bookman, B.E.M., holds a key position in Canadian Zionism by virtue of his recent election to the national presidency of Canadian Young Judea. . . Mr. J. Freedman, a life-long friend of the Ottawa Talmud Torah, has once again been named the Honorary Chairman of the Talmud Torah Board. . The Talmud Torah Board of Education, finding that its responsibilities keep expanding, has named Mr. H. Shoihet its Vice-Chairman. Yeshiva College of New York City, where a number of Ottawa boys were ordained, has been granted a charter acknowledging its secular school as a full university.

Thus it becomes the only Jewish university in the western world.

STUDY GROUP

The Rabbi's Study Group for young people will meet in the vestry rooms of the Congregation Adath Jeshurun Monday evening, February 4th, at 8 p.m. The meetings have been characterized by lively discussion and an abundance of animation in debate.

Wohl and Oysher at Dinner



RABBI SAMUEL WOHL

The annual dinner of the Ottawa Histadrut Campaign will be held at the Chateau Laurier Wednesday, February 6th at 6.30 p.m., with Rabbi Samuel Wohl of Cincinnati as the guest speaker and Cantor Moyshe Oysher as the guest artist.

Rabbi Wohl is the National President of the League for Labour Palestine and is an associate editor of the Jewish Frontier. He is also active in the United Palestine Appeal and the American Jewish Congress, and he is a member of Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. His reputation as an orator is international.

Moyshe Oysher needs no introduction to anybody who is familiar with the Yiddish stage and Jewish films. Reservations are being taken now by the following members of the committee:

H. Shinder	3-5470 (3-5424)
I Stone.	3,9284
A. L. Achbar.	3-5566
M. Shabinsky.	4-2025
L. Blostein,	4-2554

The Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

Published Monthly By

THE OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Oscar Z. Fasman, Rabbi

Thomas Sachs,	President.
L. Freiman,	Vice-President.
S. Caplan,	Vice-President.
S. Saslove,	Treasurer.
B. Pearl	Hon. Secretary.
Joseph Ages,	Executive Secretary.

Wartime Prices and Trade Board Exemption Certificate
No. 66, dated Feb. 9, 1943.

CHOOSING A RABBI

The Ottawa Jewish community must now choose a Rabbi. The problem is no small one. It deserves the careful attention of every conscientious person in the community. Some things, moreover, should be constantly kept in mind.

First, this community is exceptional, because it has succeeded in getting its five congregations to work together and to work in harmony with the National Jewish units that function here. Ottawa has been praised by observers throughout Canada and the United States for this achievement. The Synagogues here have succeeded in their program because of this arrangement, while every worthy Jewish cause that came to Ottawa to solicit funds received a response far in excess of the proportional generosity elsewhere. It will therefore be fatal to abandon the present system, and any Synagogue that will entertain the idea of going its independent way will deteriorate into a small town unit, of little consequence to the total picture of Jewish life and of even less value to its own spiritual advancement.

Second, nothing can be more illogical than to introduce radical changes into the organization of Jewish life here just when the new Synagogue-Centre is about to be erected. It is simple wisdom to wait until the Synagogue-Centre is completed and to see manner in which community activities increase, before deciding upon new departures in the method of community administration.

Third, for a long time it has been apparent that there is enough work in the community to keep more than one Rabbi occupied. The solution should be, however, not a split between congregations in order to have separate Rabbis, but one Rabbi to be the spiritual leader of the community, with an assistant Rabbi or Rabbis to share in the city-wide responsibilities.

Fourth, this community has a large number of people who will never be happy with a Rabbi who lacks the traditional Semicha and the education it represents; and, conversely, a Rabbi who is deficient in this respect will always be uncomfortable in the situations that keep arising in Ottawa. A Rabbi who is not thoroughly equipped in Talmudic studies will rapidly become the butt of unkind anecdotes and tales of "Am Haaratzuth" that will result in his becoming a misery to the community and to himself.

Fifth, to budget itself wisely against future contingencies, Ottawa will do well to think in terms of a city Rabbi, who can take care of the preaching, public relations and ritual questions, with an assistant who has been specially trained in community centre work with the accent on club activities.

The vital duty at this time is to preserve the oneness of this community, through which its glorious record was made possible, and to avoid endangering that unity by talk of dividing up the centralization of the Rabbinical office. This community must hold together, and the most practical focus is the person of its spiritual leader.

WHAT IS A JEW?

A Jew is an honest, generous, goodhearted person, always considerate of the rights of others, sympathetic with their needs, and steadfastly loyal to his civic and patriotic responsibilities.

Examine the above definition closely. It represents a large section of opinion among modern Canadian Jews. Then ask yourself, what is there in the description that would not apply to a Christian? You may be tempted to answer, "Nothing—and that's the way it should be."

Actually, however, the most enlightened minds in the world believe that there is virtue in the differences between the various groups in society, for monotony is sterile, variety is creative. In addition, the facts of life do not agree that Jews and Christians are identical. The original definition is therefore inadequate; something more is required.

A Jew is also a person who belongs to a distinct tradition, history and culture, and who is characterized by the religious conduct and viewpoint that make up the faith of Judaism. Now the whole story is told. If you take the second part and omit the first, you have no Jew; likewise, if you take the first without the second. The result demands a great deal of him who desires to be a Jew, but he may not seek for anything less. Being a special kind of human, a Jew cannot free himself from the all-inclusive characteristics of the race, and at the same time he cannot abandon his specialty. If Jews are disgusted with a Jew who is dishonest or hard-hearted, Christians can never quite understand a Jew who denies his Hebrew ancestry, his bonds with the Holy Land, and his religious customs. In either case he is a spiritual freak, a headless body or a bodiless head.

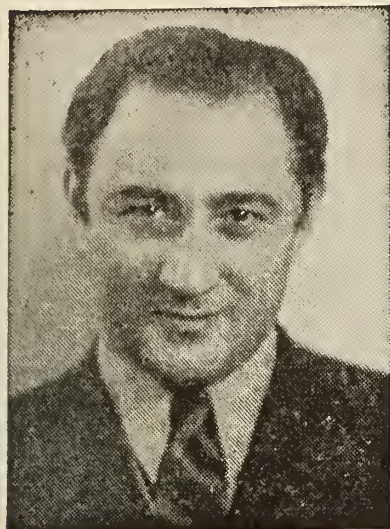
In practical life, a Jew will not remain silent if a negro suffers because of his skin colouration, or a worker has his skull crushed because of pleading for improved labour conditions; his attitude to the Synagogue will be positive, and his interest in Eretz Israel will never falter; he will write cheques for the charity institutions of his city, as well as for the Hebrew causes that knock at his door. If his load is heavy, his shoulders grow strong; if his duties are extensive, his capacities are deepened; if his soul is attuned to all the suffering in the universe, his spirit is the richer. The Jew is a man—noble when true to himself, pitiful when fleeing himself. The Jew of the complete definition is great, but only of the complete definition.

Worthy of Study

In the Read magazine of February 1946, Rev. A. T. B. Haines, D.D., one of the most noted clergymen in the United States and Canada, writes an article that contains this statement, worthy of study by all Jews who are interested in the function of the Synagogue:

"Let the Church be the Church."

This slogan embodies what men expect of the church. They do not go to church merely for companionship such as any good club can supply. Nor do they go to hear concerts, or to be lectured by political enthusiasts. They seek spiritual guidance, moral enlightenment, sacramental strength, recreative power, spiritual sustenance and consolation, contact with the highest and the best.



MOYSHE OYSNER
Histadrut Guest Artist

Histadrut Committee, 1946

Hon. Chairman, J. Freedman, L. Freeman.

Chairman, A. L. Achbar.

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. D. Green, A. Rebner, Mrs. H. Weiner.

Campaign Manager, H. Shinder.

Asst. Campaign Manager, S. Goldstein.

General Secretary, M. Shabinsky.

Asst. Secretaries: Mrs. I. Shalom, Mrs. M. Levinson, Mrs. Shura Caplan.

Treasurer, H. Greenblatt.

Capt. of Captains: D. Green.

Asst. Capt. of Capt. H. Goldstein, L. Blostein, I. Rebner, I. Shalom.

Arrangements Committee: Chairman I. Stone, D. Slover, H. Small, Mrs. H. Shinder, Mrs. N. Blair, Mrs. A. Pepper, Dr. A. Slone, S. Saslove, I. Sandler, R. Sternberg, S. Caplan.

Executive Members: E. M. Lerner, Chairman, N. Lang, I. B. Bodnoff, H. Levendal, B. Fleming, N. Wilchesky, H. Loomer, M. Lighthouse, Mrs. R. Rafal, Mrs. A. Rebner, Dr. A. Glickman.

Representatives of Ottawa Hebrew Benefit Society: B. Bookman, I. L. Arron, A. Goldfield.

B'Nai Brith Camp Opening Again

Mr. J. C. Horwitz, president of the Ottawa B'Nai Brith, wishes to announce that once again, plans are being formulated for the re-opening of the B'Nai Brith camp—following six years inactivity due to War—under the auspices of the B'Nai Brith.

A large permanent site has been purchased by the B'Nai Brith Lodge at Quyon, Quebec. Permanent buildings are being erected; and new equipment is being purchased; electricity is being installed and a modern kitchen is being planned in which the dietary laws will be observed.

The committee is busy at present endeavouring to secure the services of a trained Camp Director and capable counsellors.

The Camp will operate from June the 30th, 1946 to July 28th, 1946. Campers are advised that the first two week period will be for boys only, and the second two week period will be for both boys and girls. The rate set for campers will be \$15.00 per week, per person. Prospective campers and counsellors are advised to make their applications early. . . by calling Mr. Edward Gittleston, phone 2-5200.

The Camp will be under the direction of the following committee:

Chairmen: Alex Betcherman, L. Freeman.

Vice-Chairmen: Edward Gittleston, J. Feiner.

Treasurers: I. Stone, A. Litwick.

Secretaries: Samuel Caplan, S. Zelikovitz.

Building and Layout: Hy. Harris, Mrs. J. C. Horwitz.

Food: M. Freedman, Mrs. E. Gittleston.

Maintenance: C. Liberman.

President of B'Nai Brith: J. C. Horwitz.

Vice-President B'Nai Brith: A. Palmer.

SABBATH CANDLES

February 8th,	5.00 p.m.
" 15th	5.10 p.m.
" 22nd.	5.20 p.m.
March 1st.	5.30 p.m.
" 8th.	5.39 p.m.

THERE'S A POINT

This story has a point.

Once upon a time there were two airfields 100 yards apart, called Dward and Ideau. From each field it was customary to send a plane to the same destination. It required at least 10 men on each field to launch the plane. After some years both Dward and Ideau found it difficult to get the necessary number of men to launch the plane. Thereupon somebody suggested that on alternate weeks the men of the one field should meet together with those on the other in order to launch daily at least one of the planes, since after all the destination was the same; but the men of Dward would not go to Ideau, and the men of Ideau would not go to Dward, and thus the identical cargo for the identical destination failed to arrive on many day.

PURIM PLAY

The Ottawa Hebrew Sunday School will present its annual Purim Play at the Talmud Torah on March 17th. Mrs. A. Logette will direct the production.

PRAY IN COMFORT

Since oil burners have been introduced into the Synagogue on King Edward Ave Rideau Street and Murray Street, the winter Sabbaths are comfortable. Why not try to be at Shul next Shabbos?

Yahrzeit In Adar

Because there are two months of Adar this year, a number of people have called the Rabbi to ask about when to observe an Adar Yahrzeit. The following are the laws to remember:

(1) If death occurred in Adar of a year that had only one Adar, then the Yahrzeit is kept on the same day of death both the first and second Adar in Leap Year. (2) If death occurred in a Leap Year, then in an ordinary year the Yahrzeit is kept that day of the only Adar, while in a Leap Year Yahrzeit is kept in the Adar when the death occurred and not in the other.

(It is interesting to note, however, that a boy who was born in the only Adar of an ordinary year becomes Bar-Mitzvah, if his 13th year is a Leap Year, in the second Adar.)

CULTURAL ARTICLES FOR EUROPE

The General Wingate Branch Poalei Zion, an English-speaking group, will soon undertake to gather up cultural articles, especially Zionist literature in Hebrew and Jewish, as well as such religious articles as Taleisim, Siddurim, etc., for the Jews in Europe.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this project will please call Mr. H. Abells at 5-3827 or Mrs. D. Shalom at 8-7282-W any evening between 7 and 8. Also, the Histadrut Centre at 78½ Rideau St., will be open Sundays between 2 and 5 for this specific purpose.

CONTRIBUTE SEFER TORAH

Mr. & Mrs. H. Greenblatt are giving a Sefer Torah to the Congregation Adath Jeshurun in gratitude for the safe return of their son, Dr. Joseph Greenblatt, from service overseas with the R.C.A.M.C. The Siyum will be held in the Synagogue at a date to be announced, and all the proceeds from the affair will be sent for the relief of European Jews in distress.

AN IDEA?

Because it becomes increasingly difficult for the Chevra Kadisha to find men to remain all night with the deceased in the case of a death, some discussion has begun about the inauguration of a system that is followed in a number of smaller communities. The method requires that when a member of a Synagogue passes away, other members of the Congregation volunteer to divide up the night in three hour periods between themselves, in such a manner as to have minimum of two men acting as "Shomrim" in each period.

Ottawans Make News

Dr. David Petegorsky, who is now the Executive Secretary of the American Jewish Congress, stole the show at the 28th Zionist Convention in Toronto by delivering a brilliant address at Massey Hall Sunday night, January 27th. . . A former Ottawan, Rabbi William Drazin, has resigned his pulpit with the McCaul Street Synagogue of Toronto to assume spiritual leadership of the largest Synagogue in Borough Park, Brooklyn. . . The Friedgut boys, now living in Toronto like the city very much, only Ted says he still misses our Breakfast Club, and Tully says he still misses the Ottawa Talmud Torah. . . The greeting that our Rabbi brought to the Zionist Convention in the name of the Canadian Mizrahi Organization, of which he is a praesidium member, received favourable comment from the delegates as well as from the Toronto Jewish Press. . . A touching introduction to the proceedings of the Convention was the eloquent tribute paid by Mr. E. E. Gelber to the memory of the late A. J. Freiman. . . Among National Council members whose passing was mourned, prominent mention was made of the late S. J. Ritt.

AROUND TOWN

Rabbi O. Z. Fasman was one of the speakers at the Annual Meeting of the Ottawa Day Nursery. . . The important social purpose being served in Ottawa by the Montefiore Club was enhanced from the Jewish point of view by transferring the Tuesday night meetings to the Talmud Torah Hall. . . Honourary Capt. I. B. Rose, whose superb record as a Chaplain with the Canadian Army Overseas has evoked the highest praise among the Jewish men he served, the afflicted Jews he helped in Holland, and the Christian Chaplains with whom he worked, is back home with his mother, Mrs. K. Rose.

PLEASE NOTICE

If some weeks or months from now you receive a letter of thanks from somebody in Europe for a parcel that you sent him, and you have no recollection of so doing, do not be surprised. The parcels that are sent by the Vaad Ha'ir under the chairmanship of Mrs. M. Roberts must have a variety of return addresses in order to conform with postal requirements, and the committee therefore took the liberty of choosing names at random from the city mailing list for the return address.

Free Loan Tea

The Annual Tea to support the Hebrew Free Loan Association will be held in the Talmud Torah Sunday evening February 3rd. The proceeds from this function cover the expense incurred in the operation of the Free Loan, so that none of the capital is used during the year, and so that it is not necessary to charge borrowers even a nominal fee; in other words every loan is repaid without a particle of interest being accepted.

YOUR RABBI SAID

The question is not whether Ottawa Jewry can afford to support a community centre, but whether it can afford not to support one. . . The aesthetics of Judaism does not stand in opposition to the moral law, but grows out of it. . . No philosophy on Judaism is strong if it attracts devotees of its theory but not of its practice. The reason the Torah objects to an altar whose stones have been hewn smooth by the sword derives, in all probability, from the conviction that one may not use violence to reach a selfish goal by disguising it as a public shrine. . . The Sabbath of Song is followed immediately by the Sabbath of the Ten Commandments; how thoroughly suggestive of the true melody that is the Hebrew faith!

A TEST OF A TALMUD TORAH

"The institutions of higher Jewish learning in America are beginning to complain that from the average Talmud Torah today they receive fewer pupils with a thorough Jewish education than in years gone by; that, in fact, many a Talmud Torah can no longer be regarded as a source for Yeshiva classes"

Thus has Rabbi Jacob Greenberg, the dean of the Hebrew Theological College of Chicago, described one of his major problems to his former student, our Rabbi. The dean was therefore delighted to hear that the Ottawa Talmud Torah has remained true to the rich curriculum of a thorough school, to the extent that it sends graduates to Yeshiboth in both Canada and the United States.

ANNUAL DANCE

The B'nai B'rith Girls, Lodge 131, are holding their Annual Dance and floor show at the Talmud Torah February 17th, at 8.30 p.m.

Herb Mason and his Orchestra will be featured. Proceeds are to go to Camp B'nai B'rith.